



State of Utah

**Department of
Natural Resources**

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

**Division of
Oil, Gas & Mining**

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

September 7, 2006

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT
7004 2510 0004 1824 7944

Barry Peterson
Sierra Starlight Quarry
160 East Cottonwood
Oakley, Idaho 83346

Subject: Proposed Assessment for Cessation Order #MC-06-01-08, Sierra
Starlight Quarry, M/003/049, Box Elder County, Utah

Dear Mr. Peterson:

The undersigned has been appointed by the Division of Oil, Gas & Mining as the Assessment Officer for assessing penalties under R647-7.

Enclosed is the proposed civil penalty assessment for the above referenced cessation order. The cessation order was issued by Division Inspector, Lynn Kunzler, on August 10, 2006. Rule R647-7-103 et. seq. has been utilized to formulate the proposed penalty for the violation as follows:

- MC-06-01-08(1)– Violation 1 of 1 \$660

The enclosed worksheet specifically outlines how the violation was assessed.

By these rules, any written information which was submitted by you or your agent within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this Cessation Order has been considered in determining the facts surrounding the violation and the amount of penalty. If the violation has not been abated at the time of the proposed assessment, the assignment of good faith points cannot be made. If you feel that you are eligible for good faith, you should supply relevant information to the assessment officer within 15 days of the violation abatement date so that it can be factored into the final assessment.

Barry Peterson
Page 2 of 6
M030049
September 7, 2006

Otherwise, under R647-7-106, there are two informal appeal options available to you:

1. If you wish to informally appeal the fact of the Cessation Order, you should file a written request for an Informal Conference within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter. This conference will be conducted by the Division Director, Associate Director or assigned conference officer. This Informal Conference is distinct from the Assessment Conference regarding the proposed penalty.
2. If you wish to review the proposed penalty assessment, you should file a written request for an Assessment Conference within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter. If you are also requesting a review of the fact of violation, as noted in paragraph one, the assessment conference will be scheduled immediately following that review.

If a timely request for review is not made, the fact of the cessation order will stand, the proposed penalty(ies) will become final, and the penalty(ies) will be due and payable within thirty (30) days of the final assessment. Please remit payment to the Division, mail c/o Vickie Southwick.

Sincerely,



Daron R. Haddock
Assessment Officer

Enclosure: Worksheets

cc: Vickie Southwick, Exec. Sec.
Vicki Bailey, Accounting

P:\GROUPS\MINERALS\WP\M003-BoxElder\M0030049-SierraStarlightStone\non-compliance\proAssessment-CO.doc

**WORKSHEET FOR ASSESSMENT OF PENALTIES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING
Minerals Regulatory Program**

COMPANY / MINE Barry Peterson/ Sierra Starlight Quarry PERMIT M030049

NOV / CO # MC-06-01-08(1) VIOLATION 1 of 1

ASSESSMENT DATE September 7, 2006

ASSESSMENT OFFICER Daron R. Haddock

I. HISTORY (Max. 25 pts.) (R647-7-103.2.11)

- A. Are there previous violations, which are not pending or vacated, which fall within three (3) years of today's date?

PREVIOUS VIOLATIONS	EFFECTIVE DATE	POINTS (1pt for NOV 5pts for CO)
<u>none</u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>

TOTAL HISTORY POINTS 0

II. SERIOUSNESS (Max 45pts) (R647-7-103.2.12)

NOTE: For assignment of points in Parts II and III, the following apply:

1. Based on facts supplied by the inspector, the Assessment Officer will determine within each category where the violation falls.
2. Beginning at the mid-point of the category, the Assessment Officer will adjust the points up or down, utilizing the inspector's and operator's statements as guiding documents.

Is this an EVENT (A) or Administrative (B) violation? Event
(assign points according to A or B)

A. EVENT VIOLATION (Max 45 pts.)

1. What is the event which the violated standard was designed to prevent?

2. What is the probability of the occurrence of the event which a violated standard was designed to prevent?

<u>PROBABILITY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>
None	0
Unlikely	1-9
Likely	10-19
Occurred	20

ASSIGN PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE POINTS 15

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

*** *An Operator is required to obtain a permit from the Division of Oil Gas and Mining prior to conducting mining operations. While the Operator had a small mine permit, the size of the operation has expanded to a large mine without a large mine permit having been approved or an adequate bond being posted. The inspector indicated that there was no particular harm to the environment or threat to the public as a result of the violation, however, if mining were allowed to continue without the appropriate approvals or adequate surety, damage would likely occur. I have assigned points in the middle of the "likely" range.*

3. What is the extent of actual or potential damage? RANGE 0-25

In assigning points, consider the duration and extent of said damage or impact, in terms of area and impact on the public or environment.

ASSIGN DAMAGE POINTS 3

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

*** *The inspector stated that no damage has occurred at this site as a result of the violation. This is mainly because the area had all been previously disturbed by historic mining. Because mining has occurred without the appropriate approvals, there is some potential for damage to occur. Because there is only potential for damage, I am assessing points in the lower end of the range.*

B. ADMINISTRATIVE VIOLATIONS (Max 25pts)

1. Is this a POTENTIAL or ACTUAL hindrance to enforcement?
RANGE 0-25

Assign points based on the extent to which enforcement is actually or potentially hindered by the violation.

ASSIGN HINDRANCE POINTS

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

TOTAL SERIOUSNESS POINTS (A or B) 18

III. **DEGREE OF FAULT** (Max 30 pts.) (R647-7-103.2.13)

- A. Was this an inadvertent violation which was unavoidable by the exercise of reasonable care? IF SO--NO NEGLIGENCE; or, was this a failure of a permittee to prevent the occurrence of a violation due to indifference lack of diligence, or lack of reasonable care, the failure to abate any violation due to the same or was economic gain realized by the permittee? IF SO--GREATER DEGREE OF FAULT THAN NEGLIGENCE.

No Negligence	0
Negligence	1-15
Greater Degree of Fault	16-30

STATE DEGREE OF NEGLIGENCE Negligence

ASSIGN NEGLIGENCE POINTS 8

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

*** *The inspector indicated that the violation was a result of the Operator not knowing about the DOGM regulations or lack of reasonable care. The Operator is in the process of purchasing another adjacent quarry and thought that his operations were covered by a permit. He did not realize that the operations had expanded to approximately 7 acres which exceeded the acreage allowed in a small mine permit. This indicates indifference to the rules or misunderstanding of the rules. A prudent operator would understand the need to keep within the approved boundaries and obtain approval prior to disturbing any additional area. The Operator was negligent in this regard, thus the assignment of points in the middle part of the negligence range.*

GOOD FAITH (Max 20 pts.) (R467-7-103.2.14)

(Either A or B) (Does not apply to violations requiring no abatement measures)

- A. Did the operator have onsite, the resources necessary to achieve compliance of the violated standard within the permit area?
IF SO--EASY ABATEMENT

Easy Abatement Situation

- Immediate Compliance -11 to -20*
(Immediately following the issuance of the NOV)
- Rapid Compliance -1 to -10
(Permittee used diligence to abate the violation)
- Normal Compliance 0
(Operator complied within the abatement period required)

(Operator complied with condition and/or terms of approved Mining and Reclamation Plan)

*Assign in upper or lower half of range depending on abatement occurring the 1st or 2nd half of abatement period.

- B. Did the permittee not have the resources at hand to achieve compliance, or does the situation require the submission of plans prior to physical activity to achieve compliance?

IF SO--DIFFICULT ABATEMENT

Difficult Abatement Situation

- Rapid Compliance -11 to -20*
(Permittee used diligence to abate the violation)
- Normal Compliance -1 to -10*
(Operator complied within the abatement period required)
- Extended Compliance 0
(Permittee took minimal actions for abatement to stay within the limits of the NOV or the violated standard of the plan submitted for abatement was incomplete)
(Permittee complied with conditions and/or terms of approved Mining and Reclamation Plan)

EASY OR DIFFICULT ABATEMENT? Difficult

ASSIGN GOOD FAITH POINTS 0

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

*** *The abatement has not yet been completed, so good faith points cannot be awarded at this time. This category will be looked at again after the abatement has been completed. Points will be awarded depending on how quickly the abatement is met.*

V. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY (R647-7-103.3)

NOTICE OF VIOLATION # MC-06-01-08(1)

I.	TOTAL HISTORY POINTS	<u>0</u>
II.	TOTAL SERIOUSNESS POINTS	<u>18</u>
III.	TOTAL NEGLIGENCE POINTS	<u>8</u>
IV.	TOTAL GOOD FAITH POINTS	<u>-</u>
	TOTAL ASSESSED POINTS	<u>26</u>

TOTAL ASSESSED FINE \$ 660